

DEDICATION

Samuel Nathan Regenstrief: 1910–1988

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Samuel Nathan Regenstrief was born in Vienna, Austria in 1910. He came to America with his family when he was 9 years old and settled in Indianapolis, Indiana.

On graduating from high school, he joined an accounting firm. After several years of employment, he convinced the firm to form a separate division to perform management counseling and was placed in charge of this division. This accounting firm was eventually retained by Rex Manufacturing Company of Connersville, Indiana where Regenstrief moved to in 1940. When Philco purchased Rex, Regenstrief was named Vice-President of the Refrigeration Division.

In 1958, Regenstrief left Philco and organized Design & Manufacturing Corporation in Connersville. He believed that there was a commercial opportunity in the manufacturing of dishwashers, and thought that many families would purchase dishwashers to free housewives from the menial chore of washing dishes. Believing that the dishwasher market was about to take off, he organized "D & M" to mass produce dishwashers. Prices to consumers dropped and profits rose. By the mid-1970s, "D & M" employed 2,000 people and produced about 37% of the world's dishwashers.

Known as "Sam" or "Mr. R" among friends and employees alike, he was a humble man who was not awed by his own wealth. He was dedicated to improving the delivery of health care in an efficient, effective manner for everyone. To that end, he gave generously of his personal fortune.

His philanthropy is primarily manifested in the Regenstrief Foundation. Through the Foundation, the Regenstrief Institute for Health Care was established at the Indiana University Medical Center in 1969.

Regenstrief was recognized nationally as an authority on industrial production techniques. In announcing the formation of the Regenstrief Foundation and the Regenstrief Institute for Health Care, he expressed his deep conviction that modern techniques and approaches that had enabled industry to meet greater production needs could and should



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be applied to the health care industry. It was his contention that innovation and new technology applied to medical problems with the same intent that they were applied to industrial problems would help provide better health care for more people at less cost. His charge to the Institute was to apply approaches successfully used in industry to maximize productivity to the resolution of health care problems.

Some of the awards he received over the years include Honorary Doctor of Law degrees from Indiana and Butler Universities, Century Member Award from the Boy Scouts of America and the Horatio Alger Award from the Boys Club of Indianapolis.

Samuel Nathan Regenstrief died on January 7, 1988 at 78 years of age. He was a great man, and we are sorry that he is gone.